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# Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 154409
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:DKEOGH LK
APPROVED BY AF:DPETTERSON
S/S-0 : RCASTRODALE
----------112031 170034Z /64
O P 170007Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 154409

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK, US

SUBJECT: RHODESIA : GRAHAM STATEMENT ON ELECTIONS IN
RHODESIA
REF: MAPUTO 748
-
1. WE ARE SOMEWHAT PUZZLED BY GRAHAM'S STATEMENT REPORTED
REFTEL TO MUGABE (ALSO MADE EARLIER IN CONVERSATION WITH
SALISBURY PARTIES) ON THE OUTCOME OF A FAIR ELECTION IN
RHODESIA. AS FOMULATED IN REFTEL, STATEMENT SEEMS TO IM-
PLY THAT USG COULD ACCEPT RESULTS OF AN ELECTION RUN BY
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PAGE 02 STATE 154409

SMITH REGIME, IF CONDUCT OF THAT ELECTION WERE ARGUABLY
,FAIR." REPEATING SUCH A FORMULA TO PF AND OTHERS IS
BOUND TO RAISE SUSPICIONS THAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR WAYS TO
BAPTIZE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT, SO THAT IT CAN TAKE ON NEW
LEGITIMATE EXISTENCP. MOREOVER IT CAN BE TAKEN TO INDI-
CATE THAT WE ARE MOVING AWAY FROM OUR COMMITMENT TO THE
IMPARTIAL TRANSITION PROCESS SET OUT IN THE AAP.

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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2. WE REALIZE THAT GRAHAM MAY BE SIMPLY EXPRESSING A SHORT-HAND VERSION OF THE "FIFTH PRINCIPLE" CONCERNING THE NEED FOR A FAIR TEST OF OPINION IN RHODESIA BEFORE HMG COULD ACCEPT ANY SETTLEMENT. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE WELL TO STICK TO OUR POSITION ON THE NEED FOR A FAIR ELECTION NECESSARILY OVERSEEN BY A NEUTRAL ADMINISTRATION AS A KEY ELEMENT IN AN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION IN RHODESIA.

3. WE WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION OF WHAT GRAHAM INTENDED TO CONVEY IN HIS COMMENT TO MUGABE. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE YOUR ADVICE ON HOW IT WOULD BE BEST TO MAKE THIS POINT ON THE NEED FOR AND ACCEPTABILITY OF A FAIR ELECTION WHICH MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE AAP. NEWSOM

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# Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994
**Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** ELECTIONS
**Control Number:** n/a
**Copy:** SINGLE
**Draft Date:** 17 jun 1978
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
**Disposition Remarks:**
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**Drafter:** DKEOGH LK
**Enclosure:** n/a
**Executive Order:** GS
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**TAGS:** PDEV, RH, UK, US
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